

COMBINED DECLARATION, POWER OF ATTORNEY AND PETITION

We, the inventors,

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7. Name: Hoa La WILHELM
 Residence: Appleton, Wisconsin
 Post Office Address: 22 Lamplighter Court
 Appleton, Wisconsin 54914
 Citizenship: United States of America

declare that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the attached specification and claims and we verily believe that we are the original, first and joint inventors or discoverers of the invention or discovery in

**DIFFERENTIALLY EXPANDING ABSORBENT
STRUCTURE**

described and claimed in the attached specification; that we do not know and do not believe that this invention was ever known or used in the United States before our invention or discovery thereof; that to the best of our knowledge and belief the invention has not been in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to our application, or patented or made the subject of an inventors' certificate in any foreign country prior to the date of our application on an application filed by ourselves or our legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to our application in this country; that we acknowledge our duty to disclose information of which we are aware which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56(a); and that no application for patent or inventors' certificate on this invention or discovery has been filed by us or our legal representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States, except as follows:

None

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POWER OF ATTORNEY

We hereby appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Robert A. Ambrose	Reg. No. 51,231	Douglas L. Miller	Reg. No. 30,406
Scott A. Baum	Reg. No. 51,237	Thomas M. Parker	Reg. No. 42,063
Michael J. Bendel	Reg. No. 39,605	Sebastian C. Pugliese III	Reg. No. 42,091
John L. Brodersen	Reg. No. 51,236	James B. Robinson	Reg. No. 34,912
Jonelle R. Burnham	Reg. No. 41,980	Rick M. Shane	Reg. No. 50,921
Patricia A. Charlier	Reg. No. 38,840	Karl V. Sidor	Reg. No. 32,597
Thomas J. Connelly	Reg. No. 28,404	Dana E. Stano	Reg. No. 50,750
Gregory E. Croft	Reg. No. 27,542	Douglas H. Tulley	Reg. No. 34,743
Jeffrey B. Curtin	Reg. No. 37,601	Sue C. Watson	Reg. No. 38,850
Ralph H. Dean	Reg. No. 41,550	Patrick C. Wilson	Reg. No. 31,893
Alyssa A. Dudkowski	Reg. No. 40,596	Paul Y. Yee	Reg. No. 29,460
Randall W. Fieldhack	Reg. No. 43,611	Thomas W. Speckman	Reg. No. 22,617
Steven D. Flack	Reg. No. 40,608	Douglas H. Pauley	Reg. No. 33,295
Thomas M. Gage	Reg. No. 33,385	Maxwell J. Petersen	Reg. No. 32,772
Scott B. Garrison	Reg. No. 39,198	Nick C. Kottis	Reg. No. 31,974
Joseph P. Harps	Reg. No. 28,854	Kevin D. Erickson	Reg. No. 38,736
William D. Herrick	Reg. No. 25,468	Roland W. Norris	Reg. No. 32,799
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Christos S. Kyriakou	Reg. No. 42,776	Mark D. Swanson	Reg. No. 48,498
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PETITION

Wherefore we Pray that Letters Patent be granted to us for the invention or discovery described and claimed in the attached specification and claims, and we hereby subscribe our names to the attached specification and claims, Declaration, Power of Attorney and this Petition.

DECLARATION

The undersigned further declare that all statements made herein of their knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Date

Sridhar RANGANATHAN

Date

Fred R. RADWANSKI

Date

Jenny L. DAY

Date

Jeffrey J. KRUEGER

Date

Gregory M. LEFKOWITZ

Date

Stanley R. KELLENBERGER

Date

Hoa La WILHELM

Docket No.: KC-17,872

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Sridhar RANGANATHAN
Fred R. RADWANSKI
Jenny L. DAY
Jeffrey J. KRUEGER
Gregory M. LEFKOWITZ
Stanley R. KELLENBERGER
Hoa La WILHELM

Title: DIFFERENTIALLY EXPANDING ABSORBENT
STRUCTURE

Express Mail No.: EV413563916US

Date of Deposit: 08 April 2004

LETTER RE FILING PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.53

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This application is being filed pursuant to 37 CFR 1.53, with an unexecuted combined Declaration, Power of Attorney and Petition, and without the appropriate filing fee.

Express Mail No.: EV413563916US

Docket No.: KC-17,872

Upon notification by the United States Patent and Trademark Office,
the formal requirements will be met within the time prescribed.

Respectfully submitted,



Melanie I. Rauch

Registration No. 40,924

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